NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg



United States Senator for New Hampshire 393 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 202-224-3324 www.senate.gov/~gregg/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 29, 2003 Contact: Erin Rath

Gregg Convenes Hearing to Investigate Lack of Intellectual Diversity on Campuses

WASHINGTON -- Today U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions held a hearing on the lack of intellectual diversity on our nation's campuses. Witnesses and Senators discussed the varying manifestations of intellectual diversity including ideological and political uniformity of views among faculty and campus speakers; a balkanized, watered-down, and one-sided curriculum; indoctrination by administrators; and speech codes that limit free inquiry and debate.

"Students on many of America's college campuses are being exposed to only a narrow range of viewpoints through politicized course offerings, an ideologically homogenous faculty that fosters an atmosphere where dissenting views are either quashed or ridiculed, and significant restrictions on free speech. Simply put, this lack of intellectual diversity in higher education shortchanges students by depriving them of exposure to a robust debate on the issues of the day," said Gregg.

"Ultimately, this is a quality issue. While college tuitions go up and up, it's fair to ask just what students and parents are getting for their money. I believe this hearing shed light on just how this lack of intellectual diversity is hurting the quality of education received by college students," said Gregg.

While Senator Gregg has indicated that his goal is not federal legislation, he vowed to continue to shine light on this important issue with more hearings.

Copies of witness testimony is available on the Committee website - http://labor.senate.gov

###